

# GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION

October 22, 2004

8:30 a.m.

## MINUTES

### GTSAC MEMBERS

Robert Morris, Chair  
Michael Prince  
Linda Scarpetta  
Ron Wilson  
Capt. Dan Smith  
John Friend  
Cherie Mollison  
Al Byam  
Edwin Tatem

### REPRESENTING

Office of the Governor  
Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)  
Department of Community Health (MDCH)  
Department of State (DOS)  
Department of State Police (MSP)  
Department of Transportation (MDOT)  
Steve Betterly, Office of Services to the Aging (OSA)  
Local Representative – Michigan Sheriff's Association  
Local Representative – Road Commission of Macomb County

### STAFF

Sue Joseph

### GTSAC MEMBERS ABSENT

Greg Lantzy  
Vacant

Department of Education (MDE)  
Local Representative – Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police

### TASK TEAMS

Patricia Carrow  
Kathy Farnum  
Sgt. Carl Lafata  
Steve Schreier

MSP/OHSP – Elderly Mobility Task Force Contact  
Research and Evaluation Team Contact  
MSP/Executive Division – Legislation Contact  
Intersection Safety Team Contact

### ADVISORY GROUPS

Tom Bruff  
Lisa Grost  
Richard Miller  
Homer Smith

Southeast Michigan Council of Governments  
MDCH – Non-Motorized Transportation Safety Action Team Co-Chair  
AAA Michigan – Data Action Team Chair  
MADD Michigan – Impaired Driving Action Team Chair

### GUESTS

Jack Benac  
Frank Cardimen  
Lawrence Hummel  
Michael Irwin  
Robert Lariviere  
Sandy Liddle  
Betty Mercer  
Dave Morena  
Connie Morrison  
Cathy Pavick  
F/Lt. Thad Peterson  
Diane Sherman  
Nicolas Skrzypczak  
Mary Wichman

### REPRESENTING

Michigan Department of Information Technology  
Traffic Improvement Association  
Van Buren County Road Commission  
Michigan Center for Truck Safety  
Tetra Tech  
Office Financial Insurance Services  
Mercer Consulting Group  
Federal Highway Administration  
Governor's Office  
Michigan Licensed Beverage Association  
MSP/Special Operations Division – Traffic Services Section  
MSP/Criminal Justice Information Center  
Luciol Systems, Inc.  
MSP/Criminal Justice Information Center

The meeting was called to order and chaired by Robert Morris. Roll call of GTSAC members and introductions completed.

### Approval of GTSAC August 20, 2004 Minutes

The August 20, 2004, minutes were approved. **Motion by Capt. Dan Smith to accept the minutes as written. Second by John Friend. Motion passed.**

### Public Comment/Announcement Items

No Public Comment or Announcements.

## Report/Update Items

### GTSAC Commissioners' Update

- Chair, Robert Morris – North American Conference on Elderly Mobility was held in September. The conference debrief will be given later in the meeting. A legislative hearing on booster seats took place in September with powerful testimony. Homer Smith of MADD Michigan held a meeting with the Chair, Bob Morris and as a follow-up will give a presentation at the December GTSAC to update the Commission on the objectives of MADD Michigan.  
The meeting format for next year was discussed. **Motion by Robert Morris to maintain the current schedule (third Friday of every other month) for 2005 meetings. Second by Captain Smith. Motion Passed.**
- Community Health – The legislative presentation on booster seats contained demonstrations between the use of a small child seat and a larger child seat. The presentation was very well received. A grant continues in its second year with the Center for Disease control on the booster seat issue. A Child Passenger Safety Assessment will be conducted on-site during March or April. This assessment will help formulate a new strategic plan.
- Education – Chair Robert Morris stated that Mr. Lantzy's program responsibilities within the DOE have been moved to the DOS. Due to this realignment, Mr. Lantzy will no longer be representing the DOE.
- State – Motorcycle season is coming to a close for Michigan. The motorcycle training held around the state has produced many graduates. A training session hosted by DOS in cooperation with the Motorcycle Foundation will be held in October. The DOS and OHSP are working on the details of a motorcycle assessment. As stated earlier the DOS is working on the transition of the Driver Education programs from DOE.
- State Police – Currently, 89 recruits remain in the Recruit School. It will take six to eight months to realize the impact of this recruit school at the post level. F/Lt. Thad Peterson's Unit is working on getting the OHSP grants up and running around the state. The Operation CARE media event will be kicked off on November 23, 2004, with the assistance of the NHTSA Great Lakes Region and the Detroit Lions. This media event is the longest running campaign in MSP history.
- Transportation – A presentation will be made by Director Jeff to the Michigan State Transportation Commission to request an increase in funding for safety. A more detailed report on this presentation will be given at the December GTSAC meeting. Transportation will be the lead agency for issues related to elderly mobility road signage. Construction crashes involving trucks will be reviewed and the education component will be designed to help this situation. Traffic and Safety Division will become more involved in local engineering with Mr. Dale Lightihizer managing this new unit within MDOT.
- OSA – Through a reorganization of OSA, Steve Betterly will be working more in the field and Cherie Mollison will have the responsibility of elderly mobility and will attend the GTSAC meetings for Steve Betterly. The Cool Cities Initiative will be reviewed for both pedestrian safety and elderly mobility components.
- OHSP – The brightest news for OHSP is reaching the 90% belt use rate making Michigan the fifth state in the nation to obtain this significant accomplishment. OHSP's next goal is 93.3% by 2008. The Labor Day mobilization saw 218 agencies participate with a large number of citations being issued. The Challenge Awards Luncheon to recognize all the agencies involved with the mobilizations took place in September and was very well attended. The next national mobilization will be for the You Drive and Drive. You Lose. campaign that will take place over the December holiday period. A Traffic Records Assessment was conducted last week in Michigan. A handout was distributed to reflect the highlights of the assessment with a more detailed presentation to be given at the December GTSAC meeting. The 2003 Traffic Crash Facts should be available on-line today. An agency designee for all GTSAC member agencies should be submitted to Sue Joseph for placement on the GTSAC Awards Committee. The winners selected at a December 6, 2004, An Award Sub-Committee meeting will be held during the week of December 6, 2004, to select the GTSAC Traffic Safety Award winners. The list of winners will be presented at the December GTSAC meeting for final approval by the Commission. The OHSP Calendar of Activities was distributed to all attendees. The electronic version of this calendar will be posted on the web page. The Legislative Update was distributed through the Listserv. Sgt. Lafata gave an overview of the legislative handout.
- Local Representation – Edwin Tatem – Traffic Operations Center should be completed by December and will integrate the Oakland, Wayne and MDOT systems. One video monitoring system as been installed and another is being investigated for installation at intersections within Macomb County. Work continues on the Macomb County Master Plan with public comment and board approval still needed. HB5994 and HB6224, both regarding speed limits and the vehicle code, are being monitored by the County Road Commission Association.
- Local Representation – Sheriff Al Byam – Challenge Awards Luncheon was an excellent event.

## Task Team Reports

### ➤ **North American Conference on Elderly Mobility Recap – Frank Cardimen/TIA**

The final report was given. Mr. Cardimen thanked GTSAC members for both their financial and moral support. One group that was not well represented at the conference was the Metropolitan Planning Organizations. Several suggestions were given to gain greater support of the issue among this group.

### ➤ **Intersection Safety Action Plan Update – Steve Schreier/MSP, OHSP**

A document was distributed as a follow-up to the Intersection Safety Action Plan. An updated document on the accomplishments of the Plan will be presented to the GTSAC on a six-month or yearly basis.

### ➤ **Planning and Evaluation – Kathy Farnum/MSP, OHSP**

A meeting was held in Kansas this past week regarding development of a Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan. Most states have this component and it is likely that the new Transportation Reauthorization Bill will contain language that mandates this plan requirement. The plan will allow for states to share resources, which include people and knowledge to identify and take the next steps to accomplish the state goals. Some states have completed their plan and gave an overview of how they accomplished their plan at the Kansas meeting. States that have a completed plan stress the need for a third party to facilitate the plan development. The use of percentage goal setting in most states have given way to the more easily understandable concept of numbers. The Planning and Evaluation Task Team meet on October 6, 2004. The task of matrix development for the Commission raised many questions and a need for further clarification on GTSAC priorities before recommendations could be identified. Due to the knowledge of the Comprehensive Strategic Safety Plan, members of the Planning and Evaluation Task Team came to the consensus that the GTSAC consider a recommendation to develop a Michigan Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan.

Rudy Umbs has offered his facilitator services through the Federal Highway Administration to assist in the completion of a Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan for Michigan. This plan will serve as an umbrella plan with broad goals and strategies identified. Individual departments will develop actual implement plans within their area of responsibility. In most cases, plans that Departments are already required to develop will serve as the implementation plan for the Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan. The actual approval of this proposal will be discussed under old business where a discussion of GTSAC goal and priority setting will take place.

## Advisory Team Updates

### ➤ **Non-Motorized Transportation Safety Advisory – Lisa Grost, Co-Chair/MDCH**

What Every Bicyclist Should Know booklet was distributed to attendees.

## Presentation Item

### ➤ **Reducing Road Departures – Nicolas Skrzypczak, Luciol Systems, Inc.**

A presentation was given regarding road departure technology products the company can offer.

## Discussion Items

### ➤ **Old Business**

#### ➤ **GTSAC Mission Statement Approval**

The proposed mission statement was read “Provide leadership to improve traffic safety by fostering communication, coordination, and collaboration among government and other public and private agencies in Michigan.” The word “agencies” was changed to “entities”. **Motion by Michael Prince to adopt the mission statement with the word change. Second by Edwin Tatem. Motion Passed.**

#### ➤ **Establishing Criteria for Defining/Determining GTSAC Priorities**

A list of priorities distributed at the August GTSAC meeting was re-distributed to the meeting attendees. Also distributed by the Chair, Robert Morris, was a Table of Contents from the AASHTO Strategic Highway Safety Plan. Similarities of items identified at the Summer Retreat and the AASHTO document should enable the prioritizing of issues. The Chair, Robert Morris, reiterated that the actual Commission members would make the final decision on priorities based on the input of partners.

The priorities listed on the distributed materials have been covered in part by the mission. While local government is an important facet of the road usage issue, the GTSAC is to work together and not have a single focus or single type agency focus. The GTSAC exists to share information and to ensure that traffic safety is comprehensive for the whole state. The GTSAC should ensure all agencies around this table are working together instead of in competition with one another on the state's big picture issues to be identified within the Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan.

Discussion on the Task Team and Advisory Groups concept took place. Those Task Teams and Advisory Groups that are functioning are doing so based on the interest of its members. The Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan will reflect the priorities of the state that in turn will give the Task and Advisory Teams a direction in which the GTSAC is moving.

## Objectives

- Support of the Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan. A copy of a completed Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan developed by Arizona was distributed. The individual department plans for all departments represented on the GTSAC is the actual development and implementation phase under the umbrella of the overall Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan. **Motion by John Friend for the GTSAC to move forward on the development of the Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan and complete it prior to the December 17, 2004, GTSAC meeting, with MDOT and OHSP working together to secure the FHWA moderator. Second by Michael Prince. Motion Passed.** Discussion reflected that the three-day working plan for the FHWA facilitator was flexible. The logistics of having the facilitator report directly to the GTSAC will be worked out between OHSP and MDOT in the development of meeting details.
- **Motion by Robert Morris to have five-minute presentations by Task Team Chairs at the December GTSAC meeting to review their recent activity, review the priority list distributed today and relate what they will be focusing on for 2005. Second by Linda Scarpetta.** Discussion followed regarding the invitation to be extended to the Advisory Groups as well. John Friend requested the motion stand as stated. Further discussion revealed Task Teams would report in December with the Advisory Groups being offered the same courtesy in February. **Motion Passed.** OHSP will notify the Task Teams for December.

## Next Steps

- After the development and finalization of the Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan, Task Team Briefings and Advisory Group Briefings the GTSAC can move forward with changes.
- Chair, Robert Morris feels it is important to have everyone provide comments either during this meeting or in individual meetings with the Chair to move forward on issues.

## Other Business

Adjourn. Next Meeting is December 17, 2004 at Collins Road in the Presentation Room.

### **Future Meeting Schedule = 3rd Friday of every other month**

#### **2005 Meeting Schedule**

February 18, 2005  
April 15, 2005  
June 17, 2005  
August 19, 2005  
October 21, 2005  
December 16, 2005